

Message Text

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ACTION EA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9437

S E C R E T MANILA 15172

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS - III, DECLASS DEC 31, 1984

TAGS: PFOR, RP

SUBJECT: PARA, SECTION II

REF: STATE 281520

1. WE WELCOME STATE'S RESPONSE AND PARTICULARLY ITS REFERENCE TO "THE GIVEN." IN THAT SAME SPIRIT OF REALITY WE MAKE COUNTER-SUGGESTIONS BELOW.

2. WITH REFERENCE TO PARA 2, FOREIGN RELATIONS, WE WELCOME PROPOSED ADDITIONS. WE DO NOT, HOWEVER, BELIEVE FIRST SENTENCE OF ORIGINAL DRAFT APPROPRIATELY REFLECTS "GIVEN" OF PHILIPPINE PERCEPTION OF REGIONAL RELATIONS. WITH REFERENCE TO SOUTHEAST ASIA, PHILIPPINES HAS DEVELOPED INTEREST ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE AND ALREADY TENDS TO REGARD OUR COMMENT ON ITS INITIATIVES AS A BIT CROWDING. WITH REFERENCE TO JAPAN, DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONSHIP HAS PROCEEDED FASTER THAN MARCOS APPARENTLY DESIRES AND HE HAS TOLD US HE WANTS U.S. TO HELP PROVIDE BALANCE TO JAPANESE INFLUX; FOR U.S. TO ENCOURAGE CLOSER RELATIONS WOULD ONLY AROUSE GOP SUSPICIONS. SUGGEST INTRODUCTORY SENTENCE BE AMENDED TO READ: QUOTE: ACKNOWLEDGE CONTINUED PHILIPPINE EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONS WITHIN THE REGION AND BE PREPARED

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TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS FOR FURTHER IMPROVING THESE RELATIONS.

END QUOTE.

3. PROPOSED WORDING PARA 3 IS ACCEPTABLE.

4. WITH REFERENCE TO PARA 4, WE ACCEPT WORDING ON GRANTS AND FMS. WE RECOGNIZE THAT DEPARTMENT'S CONCERN RE LINKAGE BETWEEN SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND BASE ACCESS IS NOT COSMETIC BUT IN INTEREST OF REALITY RECOMMEND INSERTING WORD QUOTE: FORMALIZING END QUOTE IN FIRST SENTENCE PARA 4 TO READ QUOTE: ENDEAVOR TO AVOID FORMALIZING ESTABLISHING.... END QUOTE. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, GOP HAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED LINKAGE IN ITS OWN MIND BETWEEN ASSISTANCE AND ACCESS.

5. WE RECOGNIZE AND ACCEPT DEPARTMENT CONCERNS RELATING TO LATTER PART OF OUR PROPOSED REVISION TO PARA 5. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, WE SHOULD RETAIN PHRASEOLOGY QUOTE: SEEK TO MINIMIZE U.S. IDENTIFICATION WITH PHILIPPINE EFFORTS TO RESOLVE MUSLIM PROBLEM BY FORCE. END QUOTE. WE CANNOT QUOTE: AVOID ANY APPEARANCE OF INVOLVEMENT END QUOTE (IN LANGUAGE OF ORIGINAL DRAFT) SINCE FILIPINOS GENERALLY AND MUSLIMS SPECIFICALLY ALREADY CONSIDER US INVOLVED. THIS PHILIPPINE SENSE OF U.S. INVOLVEMENT HAS INCREASED IN RECENT MONTHS.

6. WITH RESPECT TO PHRASE IN PARA 7 OF STATE 266821, QUOTE: WITHOUT ESTABLISHING BILATERAL PREFERENCES IN TARIFFS OR NON-TARIFF BARRIERS, END QUOTE BELIEVE WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT TRADE REFORM ACT INTRODUCES A NEW REALITY TO CONSIDERATION THIS ISSUE. PROVISION IN TRA ALLOWING WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE NEED REQUIREMENT FOR PHILIPPINES, CLEARLY EXPRESSED CONGRESSIONAL WILLINGNESS TO ACCORD SOMEWHAT MORE FAVORABLE TREATMENT TO PHILIPPINES THAN TO OTHER LDC'S PHILIPPINE PANEL, MOREOVER, STATED EXPLICITLY DURING MID-YEAR NEGOTIATIONS THAT IT SAW NO REASON TO BIND ITSELF BY TREATY TO PARTICULAR INVESTMENT PROVISIONS FOR U.S. UNLESS IT WERE TO RECEIVE TRADE TREATMENT MORE FAVORABLE THAN WOULD BE OBTAINED IN DUE COURSE FROM GSP AND MTN. U.S. POSITION HAS UNTIL NOW BEEN THAT ITS NEGOTIATING AUTHORITY WOULD BE THAT PROVIDED FOR IN TRA. EMBASSY THEREFORE STRONGLY RECOMMENDS DELETION OF SUBJECT SENTENCE.

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